

REASONS *humbly offered against continuing of the ACT for better viewing, searching, and examining of Druggs, Medicines, &c. as the same now stands.*

THE *Apothecaries* are far from being averse to a Search of Medicines, or from having *faulty and defective* Medicines destroy'd, but humbly hope that Matter shall be put into such a Method, that the *Property, Reputation*, and consequently the *Livelihood* of so great a Number of Persons as exercise the Trade of an *Apothecary*, shall not be subjected to a final Determination, but under the same *Guards and Cautions* which the rest of their *Fellow Subjects* have for their *Security*.

AS it is allow'd that an *Appeal* from the Judgment of the *Censors* is reasonable, it is conceiv'd equally reasonable that such *Appeal* should be *determin'd* by Persons wholly *indifferent and unbiass'd*, how far the *College* are likely to prove so in respect of the *Judgments and Determinations* of Persons of their *own Body* and of their *own Choice*, is easy to foresee, especially when it is further consider'd:

First, That for a long Time a Jealousy has been entertain'd by the *Members* of the *College*, that the *Apothecaries* have encroach'd upon their *Faculty*, by sometimes in ordinary Instances, and in the Cases of poor Persons, Children and Servants, giving *Physick* without calling in a *Physician*, and that the *Temptation* to *crush* those who for the future shall presume to do so, will be very strong, when they shall have it in their *Power* so easily to effect it.

Secondly, That besides the ordinary *Propension* towards aggrandizing their *Body*, it may be very easily conceiv'd that it will be thought (by some at least) to be the Interest of the *College* to keep the *Apothecaries* in a *Subjection* to and *Dependance* upon them, *no Apothecary* will then dare to relieve a Patient, tho' in the utmost Extremity, for fear the Patient's *Physician* should be made his *Judge* in a little Time, and in that *Capacity* gratify his *Resentment*, which may prove a Mischief of no small *Consequence*.

Trial by a *Jury* is in most Cases the *Right* of the *Subject*, and there seems to be no reason why *Apothecaries* in a Matter of this *Moment* should be excluded from it, and be subjected in so extraordinary manner to the *College of Physicians*.

Before the passing of this Act it was always understood, That no Drugs or Medicines could be destroy'd without the Concurrence of the *WARDENS* of the *Apothecaries-Company*, and it is observable that there is no Complaint in the Preamble of the said Act that any Inconvenience arose from thence; it is humbly hoped therefore that if it should not be thought proper upon an Appeal to have the Matter determined by a Jury, that it will seem but reasonable to join some of the Body of the *Apothecaries-Company* with the *Members* of the *College* upon that Occasion, the *Apothecaries* being by their Experience more competent Judges whether this or that particular Drug or Medicine is good of the Sort.

It is therefore humbly hoped, That in the Bill for continuing the said Act such Alterations shall be made as will secure the Apothecaries from unprecedented Hardships above mentioned, and prevent the Mischiefs consequent thereupon.

REASONS

Humbly offered

Against continuing the Act
for the better viewing,
searching and examining
all Drugs, Medicines, &c.